

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BERLIN 05773 160908Z
ACTION EUR-12

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E.O.11652: N/A
TAGS: SCUL, GE, US
SUBJECT: AMERICAN FILM WEEK

REF: BERLIN 5672, 5671, 5720

1. DURING MEETING APRIL 15 WITH MFA CULTURAL DEPARTMENT'S DR. BETTIN, HE GAVE REPLY TO EMBASSY REQUEST FOR PROGRAMMING US FILM WEEK 1977. BETTIN READ FROM LONG RECORD OF DISUCSSIONS WITH FORMER AND PRESENT PAO, CITED EARLY AGREEMENT ON MIXTURE SILENT AND MODERN FILMS, SAID THAT WHEN MODERN FILMS APPEARED BE DIFFERENT ACQUIRE, GDR DECIDED SEPARATE TWO PARTS, POSTPONING MODER FILMS UNTIL 1978 AND CURRENTLY PROGRAMMING GRIFFITH RETROSPECTIVE ACQUIRED FROM MOMA.

2. HOWEVER, BETTIN CONTINUED, IN INTEREST SMOOTH OPERATION CULTURAL RELATIONS, AND SINCE BILATERAL RELATIONS GENERALLY APPEARED ON GOOD FOOTING, GDR WOULD GIVE POSITIVE CONSIDERATION TO 1977 PROGRAM OF MODERN AMERICAN FILMS IF LIST COULD BE SUBMITTED IN FORESEE-ABLE FUTURE. HE WAS TOLD MATTER ALREADY IN HAND WITH RESULTS EXPECTED SHORTLY.

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3. AT CONCLUSION THIS DISCUSSION, BETTIN ASKED WHEN GDR COULD EXPECT REPLY TO ITS EXTENSIVE PROPOSALS FOR EXPANDED CULTURAL PLAN. NOTETAKER TEUTSCHBEIN LOOKED AT PAO WITH MUCH EMBARRASSMENT AND THEN INFORMED BETTIN THAT US REPLY HAD BEEN GIVEN WEEKS AGO. BETTIN WONDERED WHY HE DIDN'T KNOW AND

TEUTSCHBEIN EXPLAINED THAT PRESENTATION HAD BEEN MADE
TO THEIR SUPERIOR DR. MERKEL. IT WAS ALSO
POINTED OUT TO BETTIN THAT GDR PARTICIPATION LA
CHILDREN'S FILM FESTIVAL WAS PART OF SAME US REPLY
AND ON WHICH HE HAD COMMENTED FAVORABLY. NOW IT
WAS HIS TURN BECOME EMBARRASSED AND HE OBSERVED
THAT US-GDR RELATIONS WERE BECOMING SO MULTI-FACETED
HE COULDN'T KEEP TRACK.
POLANSKY

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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